

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application. Deleted matter is indicated by strikethrough or double brackets, and added matter is indicated by underlining.

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for surface modification of oxide ceramics, comprising the steps of:
doping a glass component to a surface of oxide ceramics; and
carrying out heat treatment for the oxide ceramics and the glass component at 1000-1700° C for several seconds ~~[[or]]~~ to several hours.
2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the glass component has a thermal expansion coefficient smaller than the oxide ceramics.
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the glass component ~~exists~~ is selected from a group consisting of MgO, ~~Al₂O₃~~ Al₂O₃ and ~~SiO₂~~ SiO₂ as principal components.
4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the oxide ceramics ~~is to be~~ are alumina ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1500° C for 5-300 minutes.
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the oxide ceramics ~~is to be~~ are alumina ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1500° C for 5-300 minutes.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the oxide ceramics is ~~to be~~ are alumina ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1500° C for 5-300 minutes.
7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the oxide ceramics is ~~to be~~ are zirconia ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1450 ° C for 5-300 minutes.
8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the oxide ceramics is ~~to be~~ are zirconia ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1450° C for 5-300 minutes.
9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the oxide ceramics is ~~to be~~ are zirconia ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1450° C for 5-300 minutes.
10. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 1.
11. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 2.
12. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 3.
13. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 4.
14. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as

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claimed in claim 5.